

Message Text

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ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 SCS-03 SR-02 ORM-01 IGA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 FDRE-00 HEW-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 RSC-01 SCA-01 USIA-06 /048 W

----- 068741

R 032115Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2528

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOGADISCIO 0024

DEPT ALSO PASS AID/PHA/FDRC

ROME FOR FODAG (SKILES)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID SOCI SO

SUBJECT: DROUGHT EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

1. PRESIDENT SIAD JANUARY 6 EXPRESSED TO ME HIS THANKS FOR OUR BISCUIT SHIPMENT. HE NOTED THIS WAS VIRTUALLY ONLY SIGNIFICANT HELP THAT HAD ACTUALLY ARRIVED IN SOMALIA TO DATE.

2. PRESIDENT SAID DROUGHT SITUATION IS VERY GRAVE. WHILE NO ONE HAD DIED OF HUNGER, THERE HAD BEEN 400 DROUGHT-RELATED DEATHS AND NUMBER IS GOING UP. (THIS PRIVATE COMMENT, WHICH VARIES FROM PUBLIC GSDR LINE, SHOULD BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.) SIAD SAID TOTAL IN CAMPS AS OF JAN. 5 WAS 115 THOUSAND AND NUMBER WAS GOING UP THREE TO FOUR THOUSAND DAILY. HE HAD GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS TO KEEP NUMBERS IN CAMPS DOWN AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE AND TO ALLOW ONLY THOSE GENUINELY SUFFERING

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FROM DROUGHT TO ENTER CAMPS. GOVERNMENT THEREFORE

HAD MANY TRUCKS TAKING WATER AND FOOD TO NOMADS
STILL IN BUSH WITH A FEW ANIMALS, ALTHOUGH THIS WAS
EXPENSIVE PROCESS.

3. SIAD SAID A VERY SERIOUS COMPLICATING FACTOR WAS
INFLUX OF NOMADS AND ANIMALS FROM ETHIOPIA. SOMALIS,
HE SAID, EXPECT 500 THOUSAND PEOPLE TO COME IN. THEY
ALREADY STREAMING INTO REGION FROM BELET UEN TO BAIDOA
AND HAVE REACHED OUTSKIRTS OF MOGADISCIO. THEY NEED
FOOD, PASTURAGE AND MEDICINE. HE HAD THAT MORNING
GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS THAT THEY BE HELPED. HE HAD ALSO
INSTRUCTED THAT ALL LAW AND ORDER FORCES--POLICE, ARMY,
VICTORY PIONEERS, SECURITY SERVICE, ETC.--REMAIN
VIGILANT TO PROTECT SOMALI SECURITY IN THIS NEW
SITUATION. GSDR PREPARED WELCOME AND TAKE CARE OF
THESE PEOPLE BUT IT DID REPRESENT SERIOUS ADDED BURDEN.

4. COMMENT: WE HAVE SEVERAL TIMES BEEN TOLD ABOUT
ALLEGED FLOW OF REFUGEES FROM ETHIOPIA BUT THIS IS
FIRST TIME ANY SQVT LARGE FIGURE HAS BEEN MENTIONED.
WOULD MUCH APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ADDRESSEES,
ESPECIALLY EMBASSY ADDIS, HAVE AS TO EXTENT OF FLOW
OF DROUGHT REFUGEES FROM ETHIOPIA TO SOMALIA (AND FROM
SOMALIA TO ETHIOPIA).
KIRK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: DISASTER RELIEF, REFUGEES, AFDROUGHTS, REFUGEE CAMPS
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Draft Date: 03 JAN 1975
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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